

Youth Violence Study Anchorage, AK

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Youth Violence Progress Report
March 16, 2005



JC 0419
<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu>



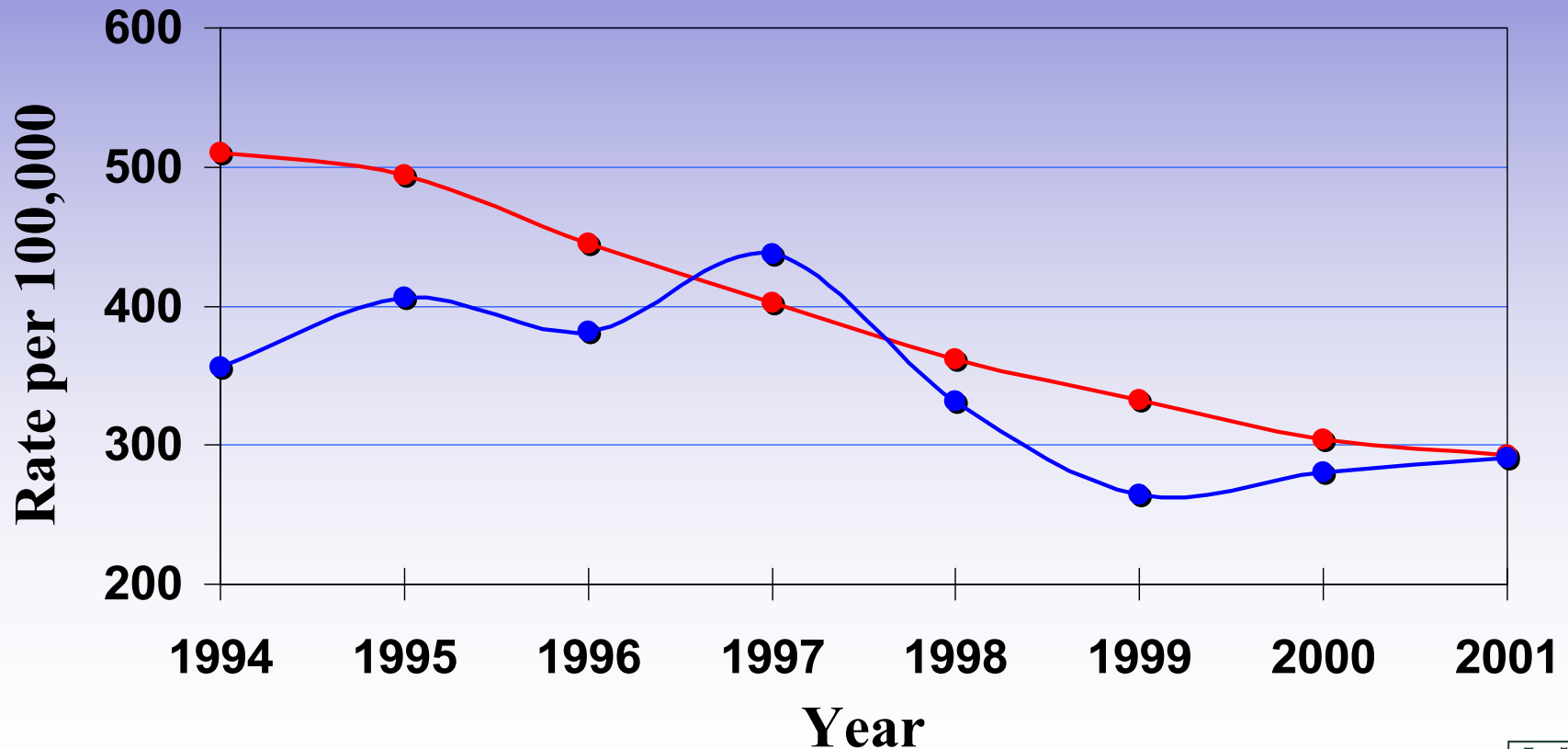
Youth Violence Initiative

Project History (4/15/2004)

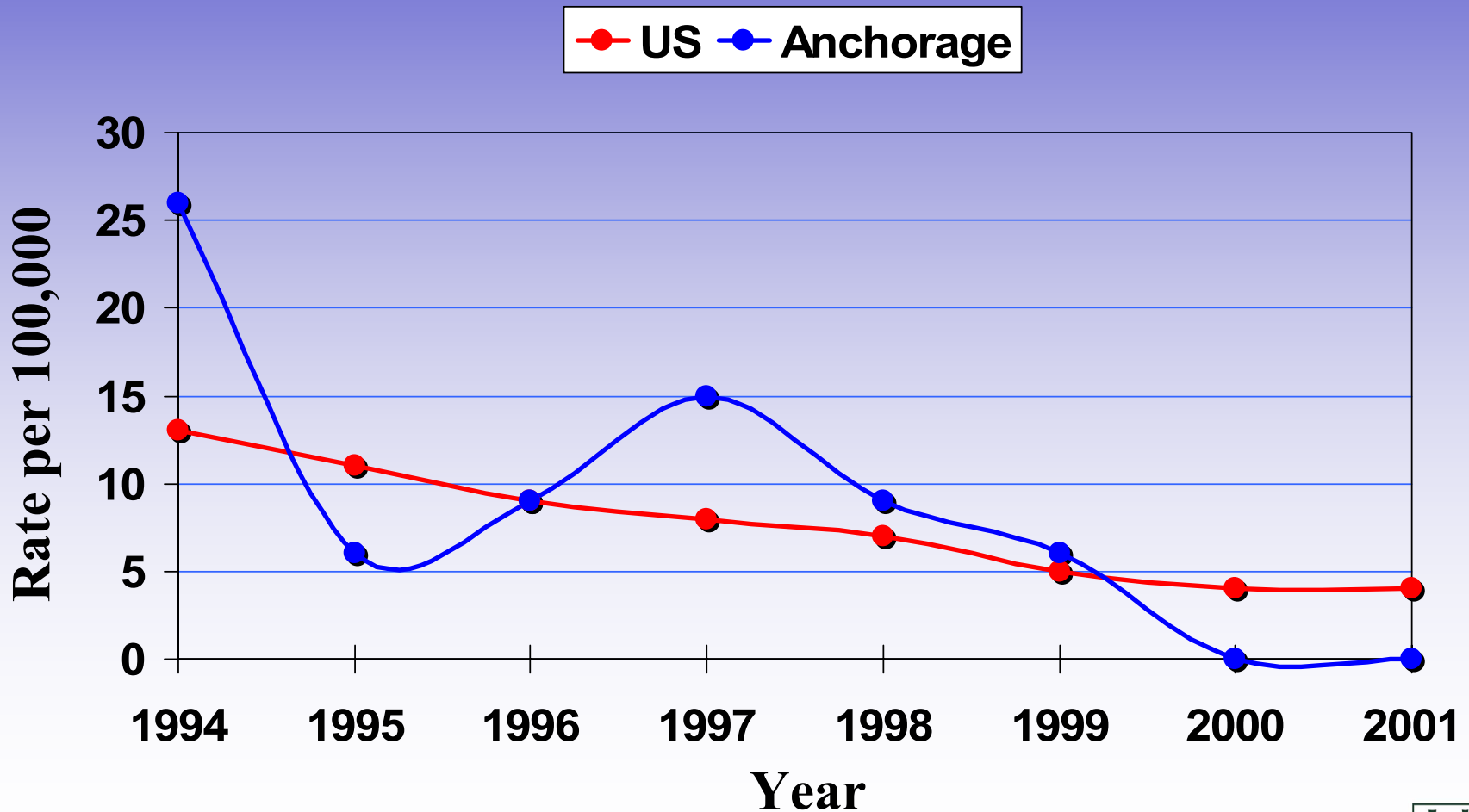
- **PSAC strongly advised Mayor's Office to conduct a study of youth violence:**
 - What are the statistics of youth violence?
 - Where is youth violence concentrated?
 - How do we compare to other cities?
 - How do we compare to 10 and 5 years ago?
- **UAA Justice Center and Anchorage Police Department collaborated to perform this study:**
 - Project design (Spring 2004)
 - Data collection (Summer 2004)
 - Data management (Fall 2004 / Spring 2005)
 - Analysis (Summer 2005)
 - Report (Fall 2005)

Juvenile Arrest Rate for Violent Crime: Murder, Rape, Robbery, Assault

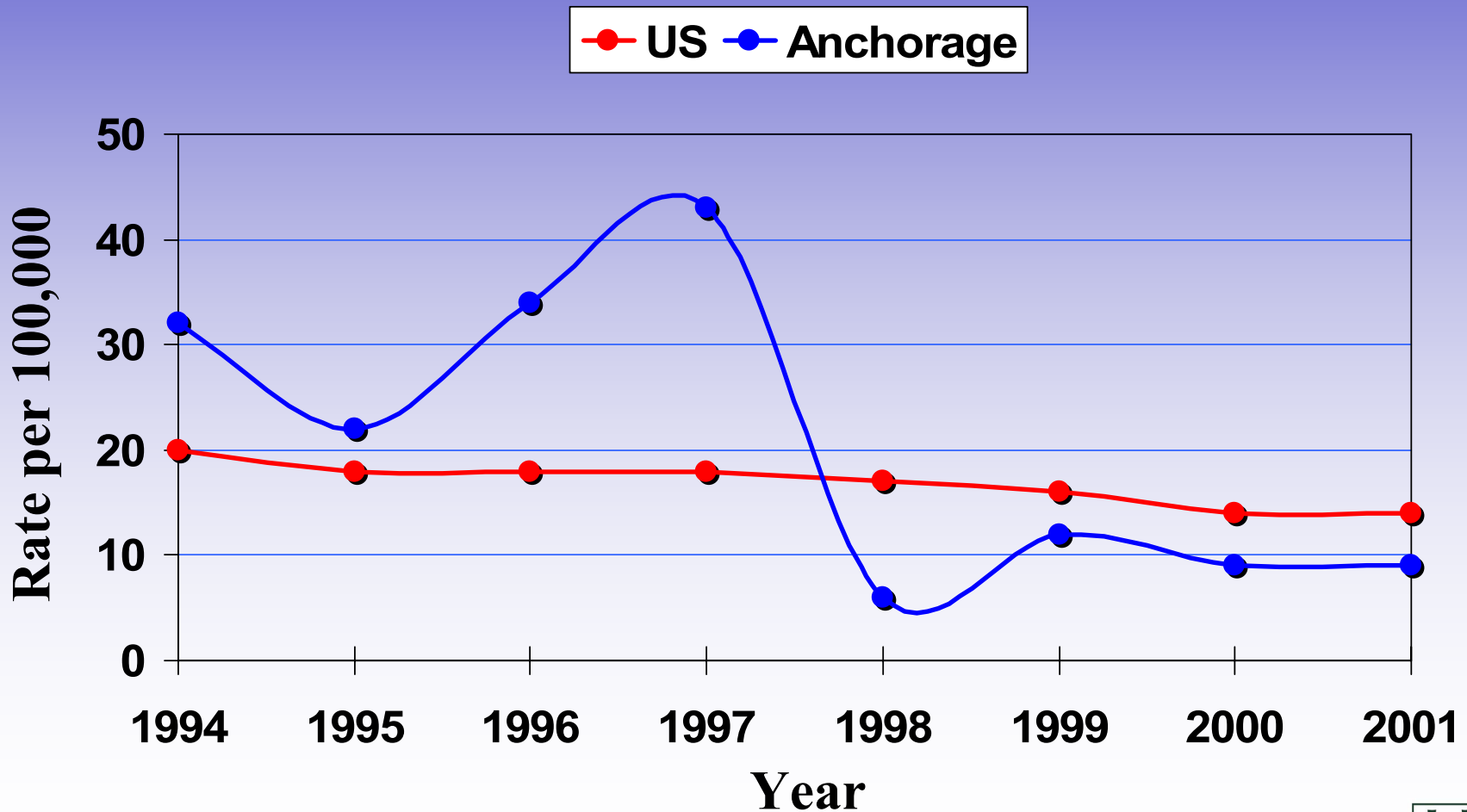
—●— US —●— Anchorage



Juvenile Arrest Rate: Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter

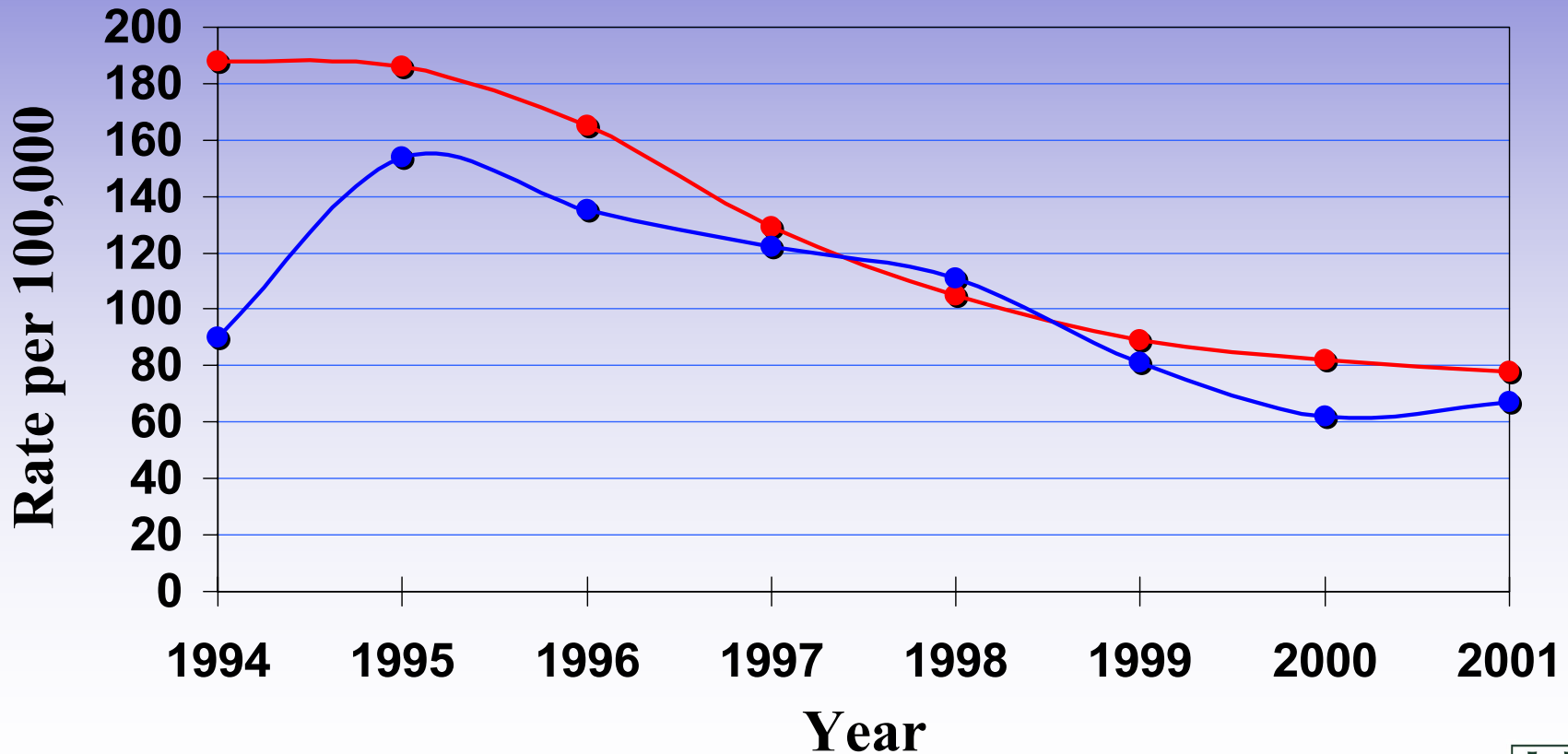


Juvenile Arrest Rate: Forcible Rape

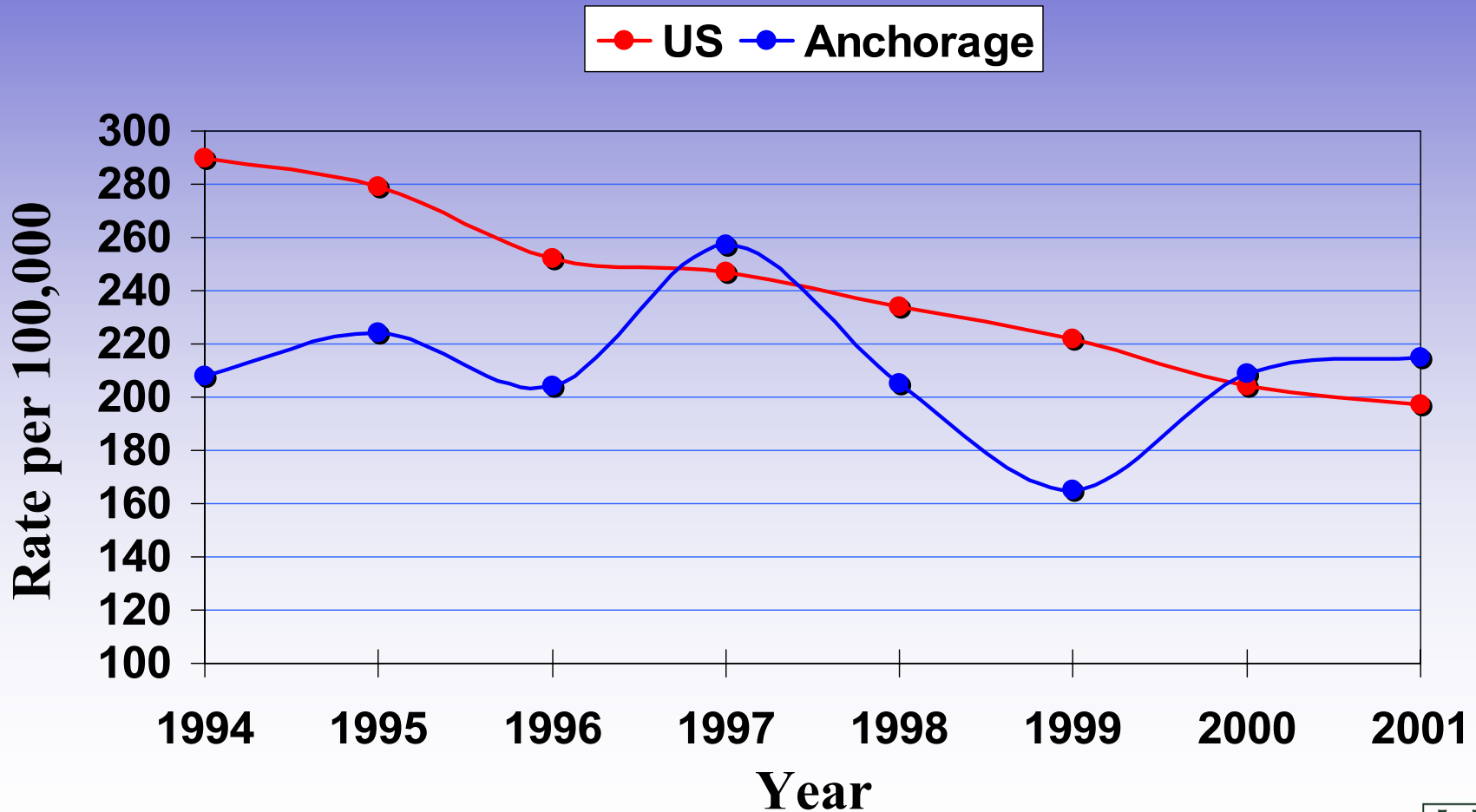


Juvenile Arrest Rate: Robbery

—●— US —●— Anchorage

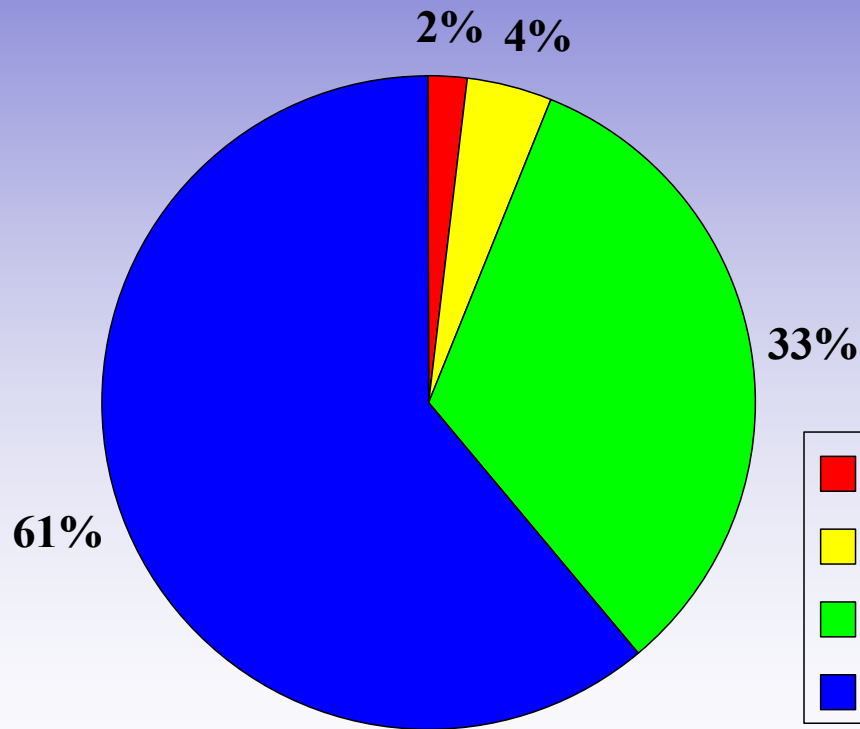


Juvenile Arrest Rate: Aggravated Assault

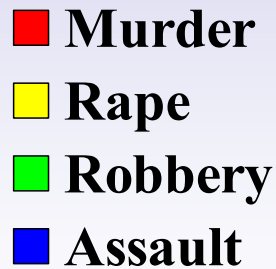
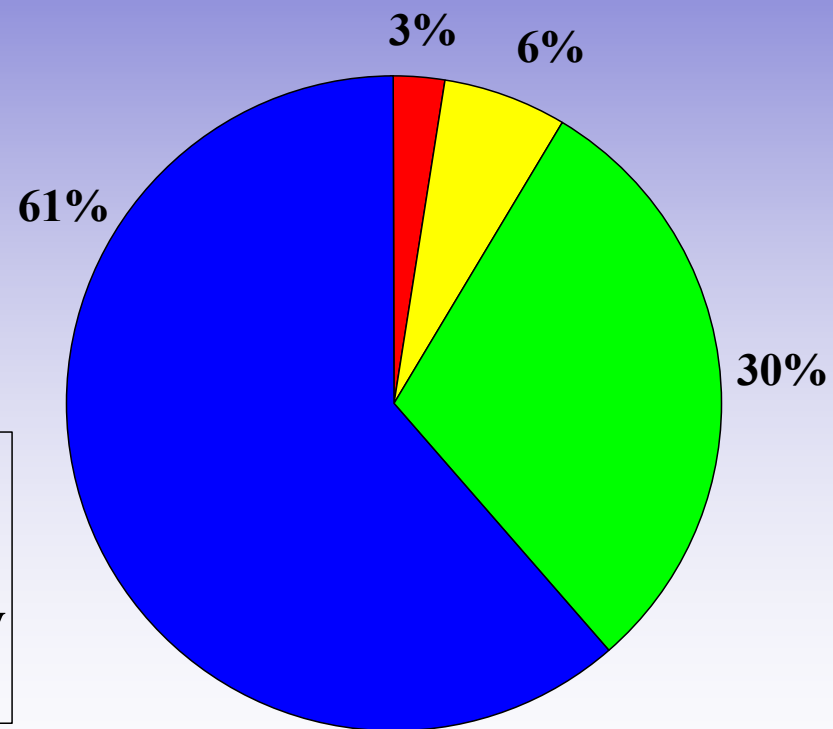


Composition of Juvenile Violent Crime: 1994-2001

U.S.



Anchorage



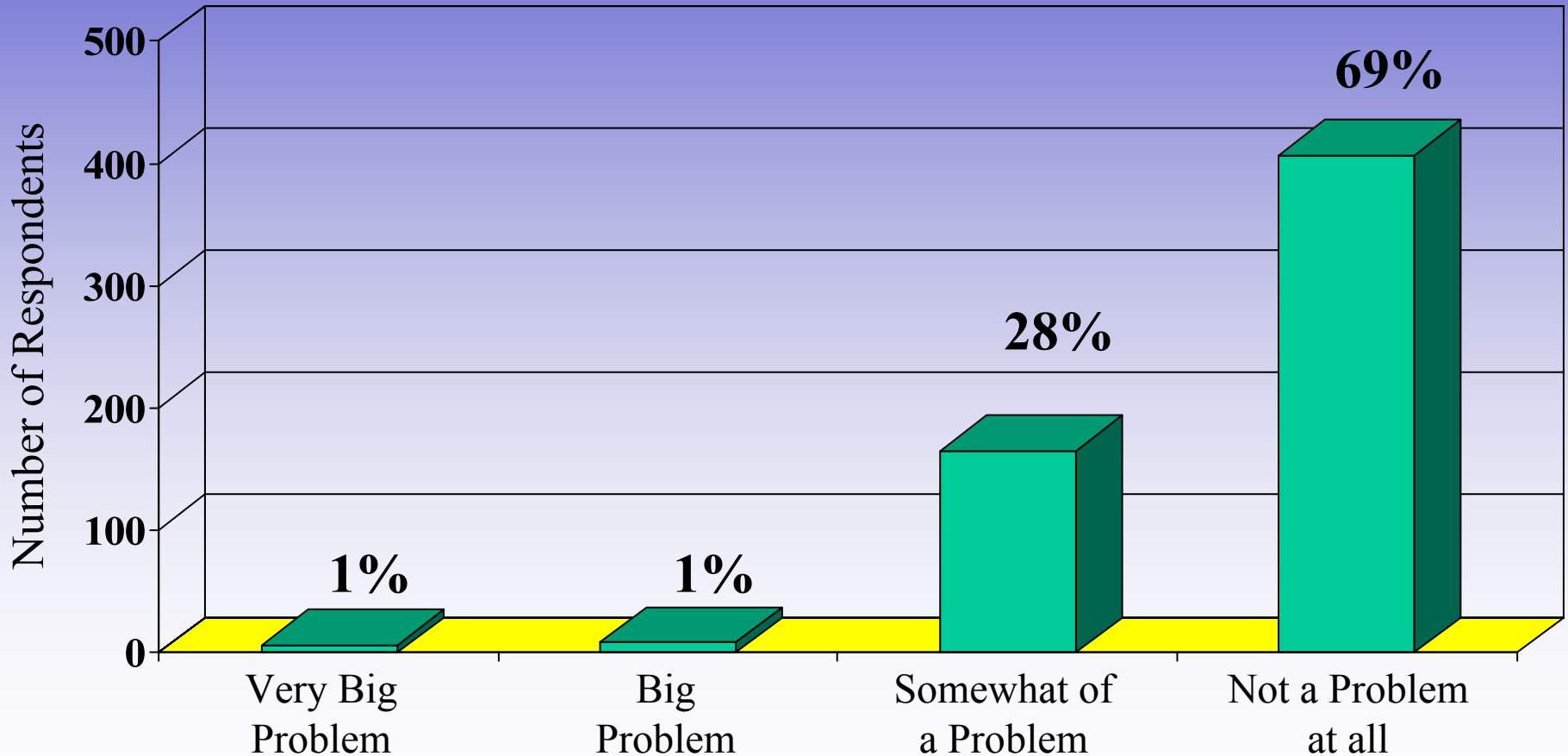
Number of Juvenile Arrests for Violent Crimes in Alaska: 1993, 1998, 2003

	1993	1998	2003	% Change	
				98 to 03	93 to 03
Murder	5	9	3	-67%	-40%
Rape	20	18	28	+55%	+40%
Robbery	55	57	25	-56%	-54%
Assault	170	191	159	-17%	-6%
Total	250	275	215	-22%	-14%

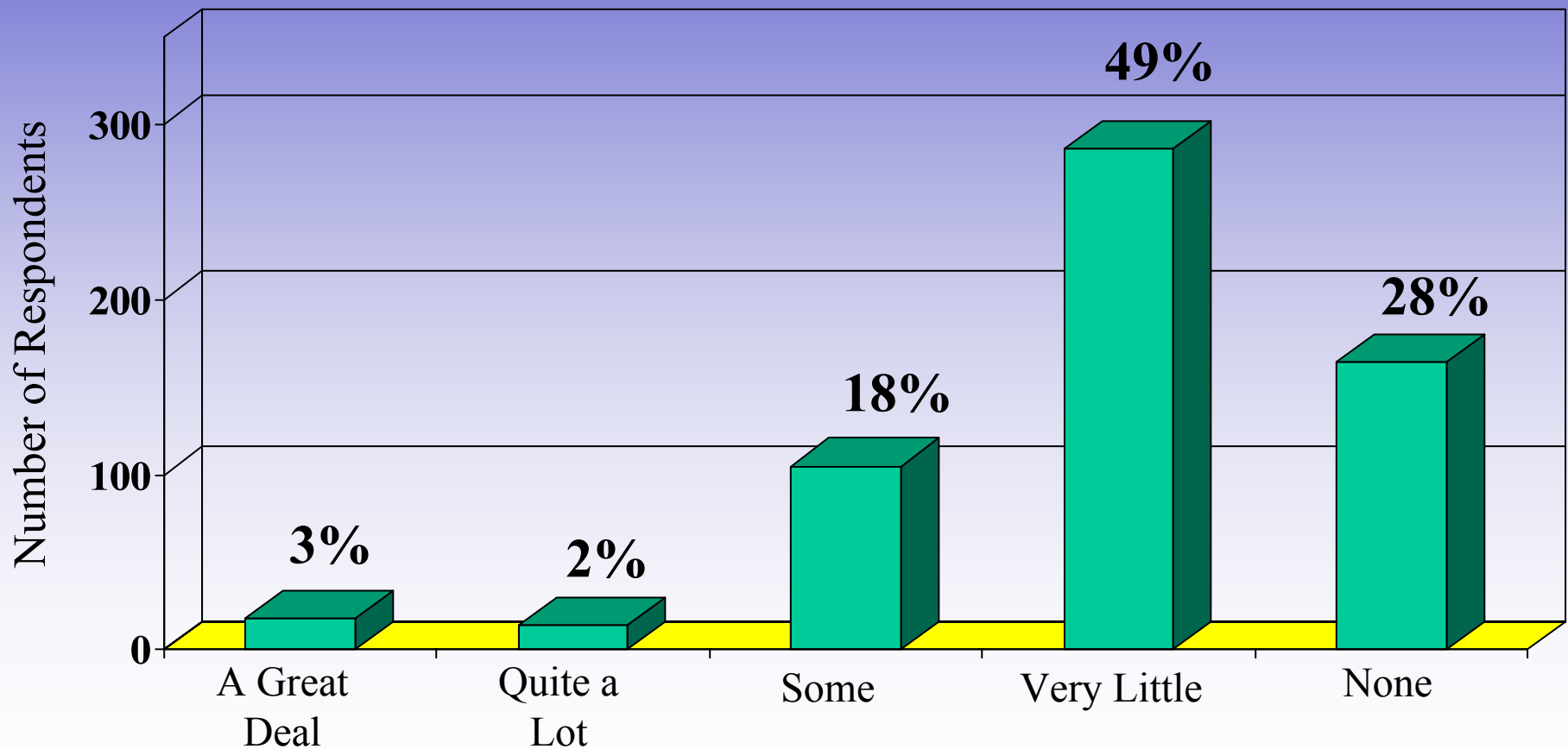
Perceptions of Youth Violence in Anchorage

- Anchorage Community Survey, 2005
- Stratified random sample of households
- 596 Anchorage residents asked:
 - Is youth violence a problem in your neighborhood?
 - Are you concerned about being victimized by youths?
 - Is there more or less youth violence in your neighborhood than one year ago?

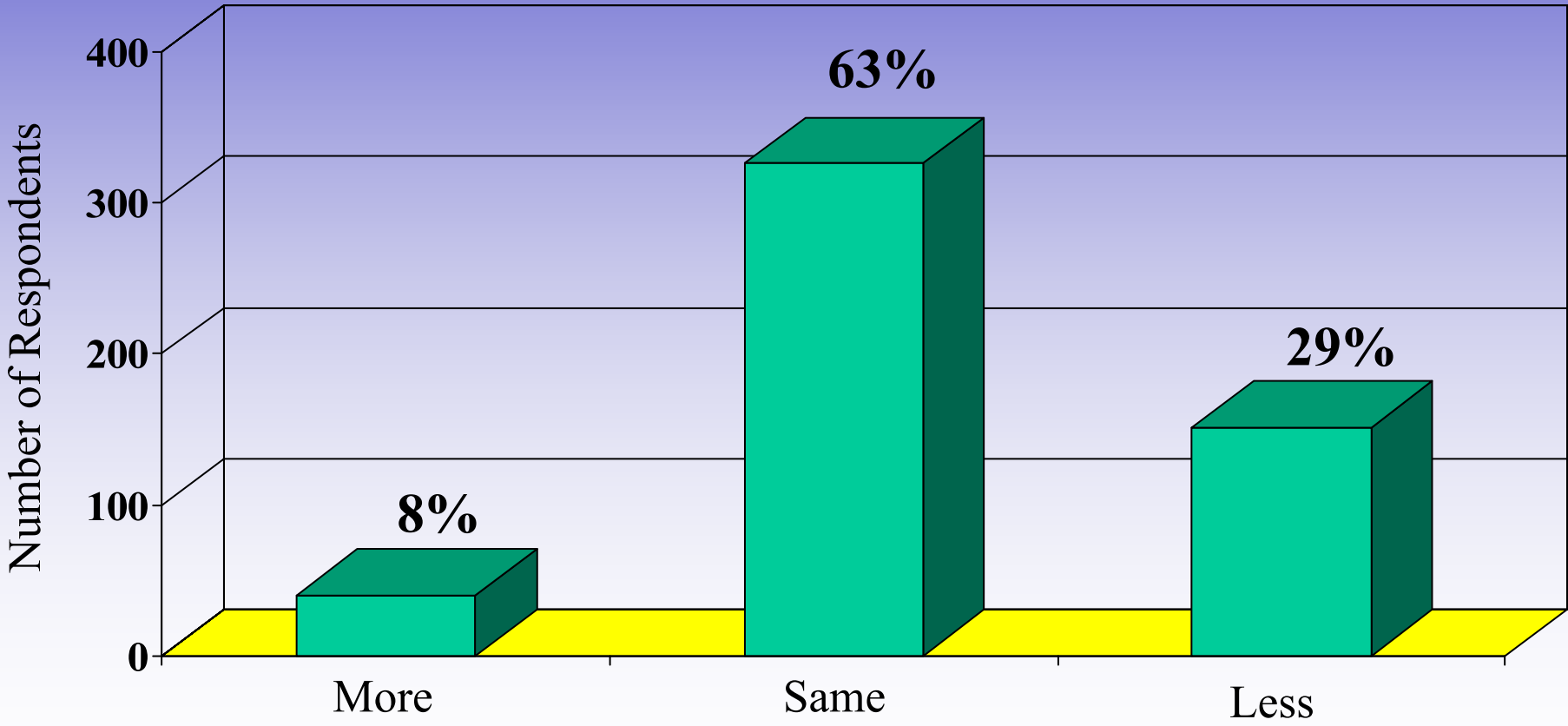
How much of a problem would you say youth violence is in your neighborhood?



Please tell me how much concern you, yourself, have of being victimized by someone under the age of 18.



In general, would you say there is more or less youth violence in your neighborhood than there was at this time one year ago?



Source: Anchorage Community Survey, 2005; N=517



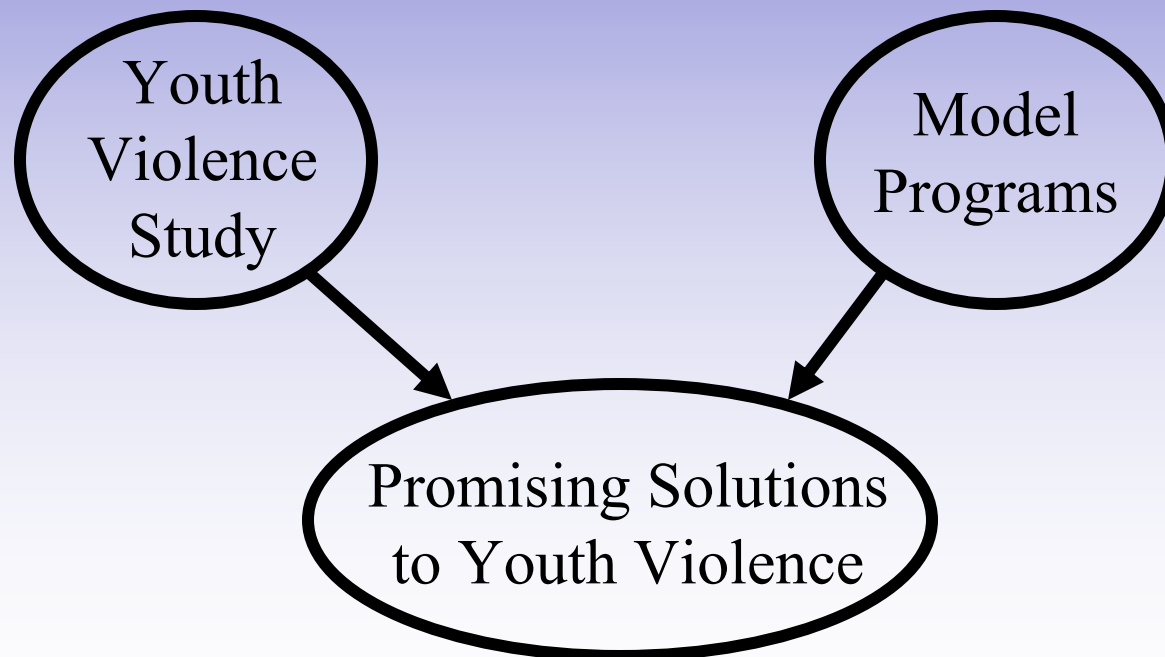
Conclusions

- Youth violence is not a serious problem in Anchorage.
- Youth violence is not perceived to be a serious problem in Anchorage.
- Levels of youth violence are “normal”:
 - Anchorage levels are similar to (or below) national average
 - Youth violence is declining, as it has nationally
- Yet we must continue our efforts to:
 - Keep our good programs
 - Develop new promising programs

Promising Programs are NOT Developed from Episodic Incidents of Violence!

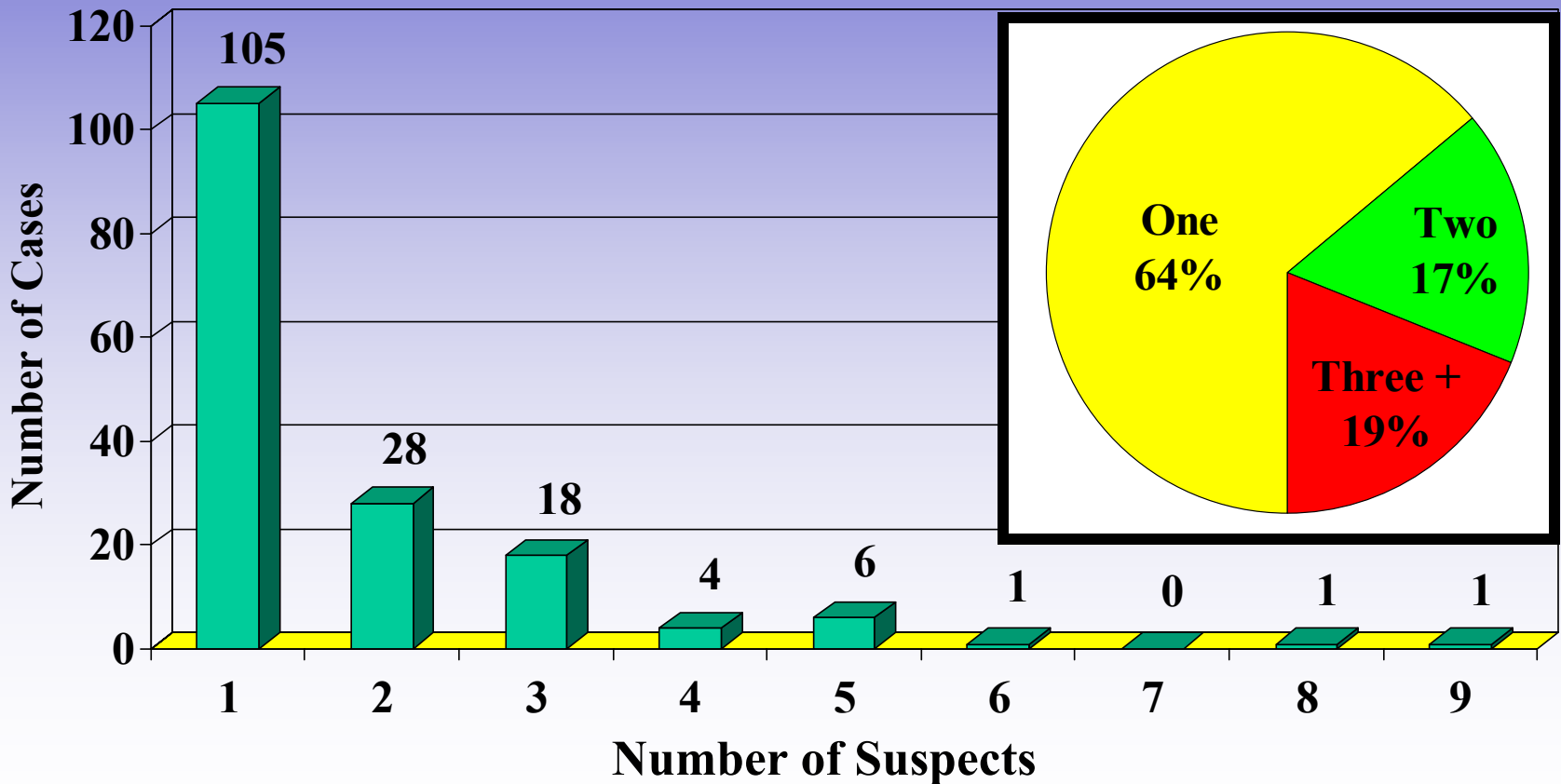
Good policies are empirically-driven:

Good policies are empirically-supported:



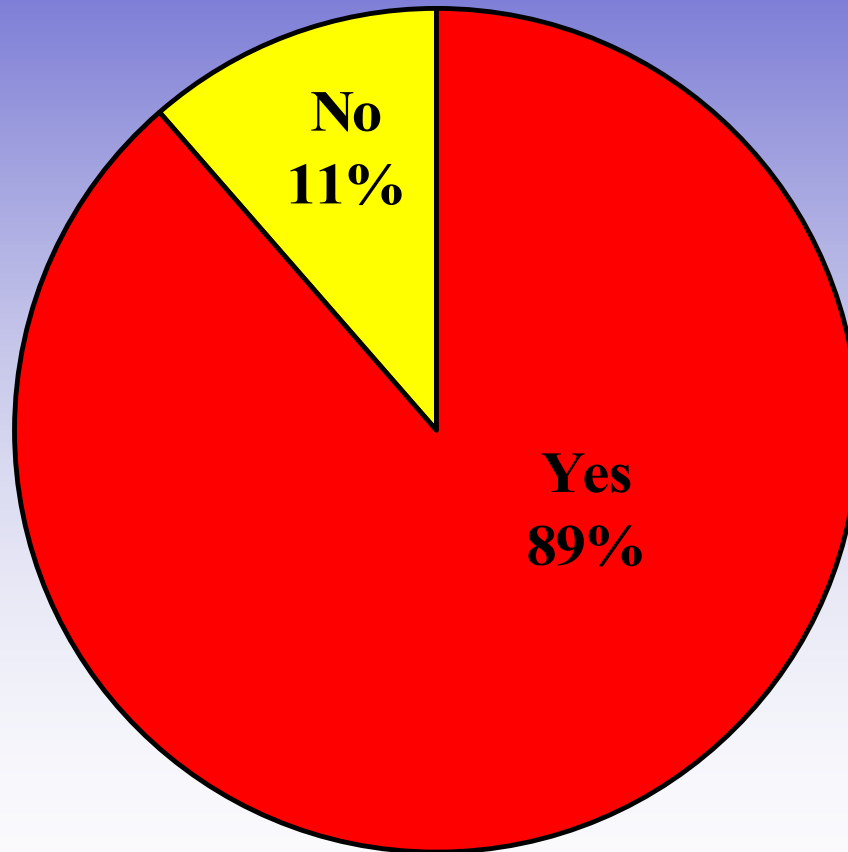
Youth Violence Study Preliminary Results

Number of Suspects per Case



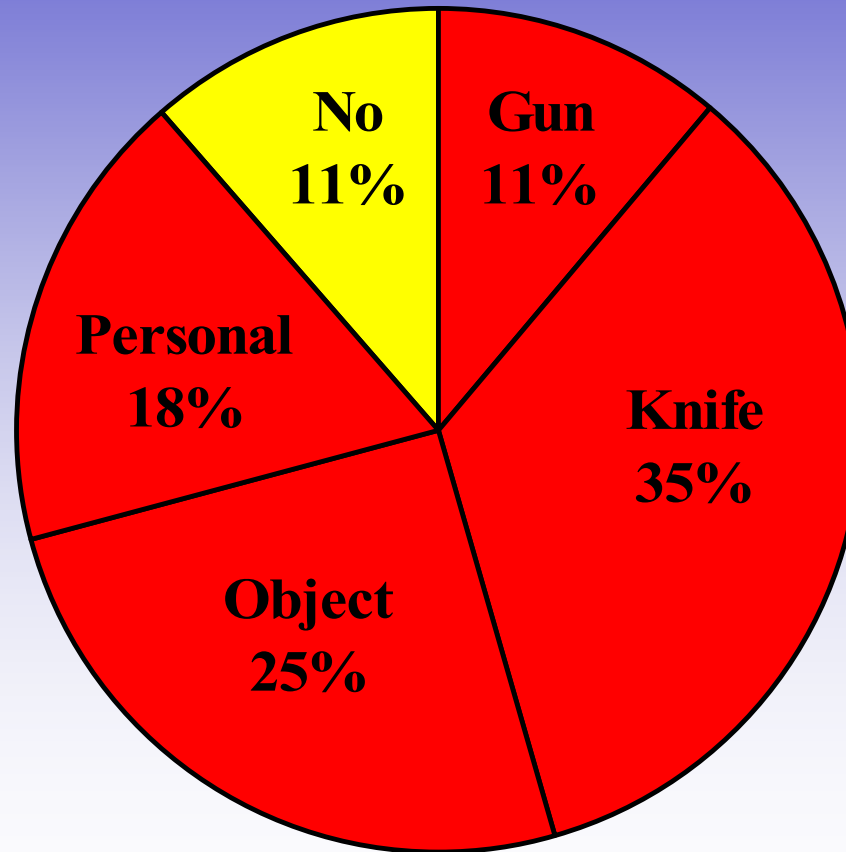
Youth Violence Study Preliminary Results

Use of Force



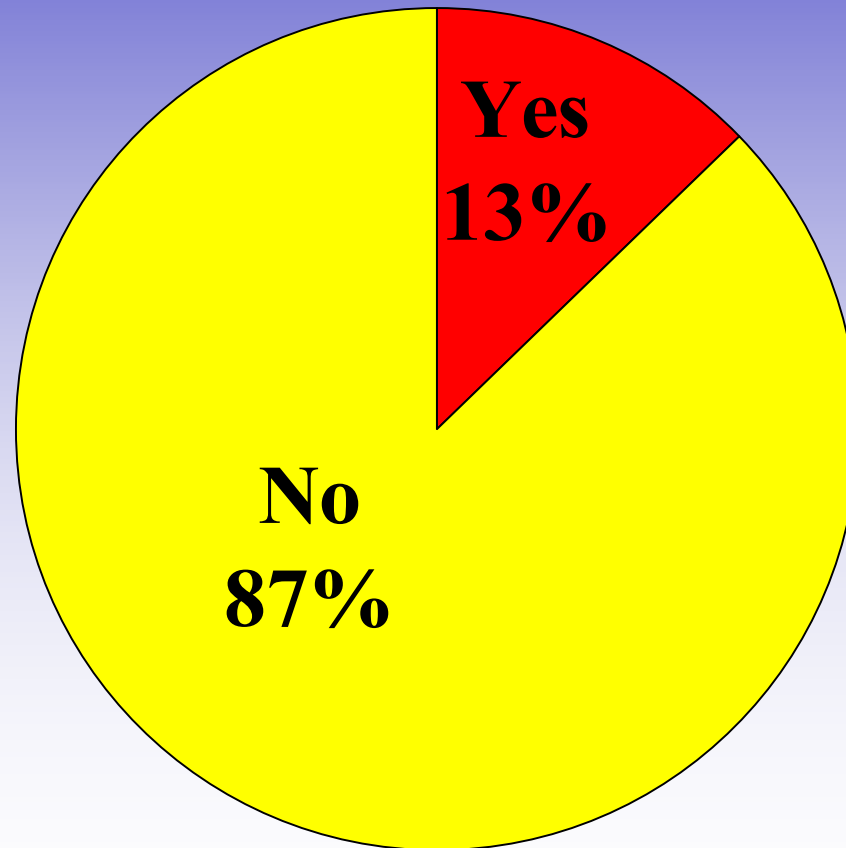
Youth Violence Study Preliminary Results

Use of Force



Youth Violence Study Preliminary Results

Alcohol Use



Examples of MODEL Programs to Reduce Youth Violence

- Multisystemic Therapy
- Nurse-Family Partnerships
- Bullying Prevention Program
- Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies

Multisystemic Therapy

- **Targets:** Violent 12-17 year olds
- **Summary:** Empower youth & family
Use strength-based approach
- **Outcomes:** Decrease recidivism
Improve functioning
- **Cost:** \$4,500 per youth

Nurse-Family Partnerships

- **Targets:** At-risk pregnant women
- **Summary:** Improve prenatal health
Improve child/mother development
- **Outcomes:** Fewer arrests
Improved child/mother functioning
- **Cost:** \$3,200 per family per year

Bullying Prevention Program

- **Targets:** Students in schools
- **Summary:** Bullying prevention / intervention
Involves schools, classes, students
- **Outcomes:** Reductions in antisocial behavior
Improved school climate
- **Cost:** \$200 per school, \$65 per teacher

Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies

- **Targets:** Students in elementary schools
- **Summary:** Promote competency
Enhance educational process
- **Outcomes:** Decreased conduct problems
Better conflict-resolution
- **Cost:** \$30 per student per year

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ANCHORAGE**

JUSTICE CENTER

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786-1810

